# **15 Cancer** Symptoms Women Should **NOT** Ignore

http://www.slideworld.org/slideshow.aspx/15-Cancer-Symptoms-ppt-2843657



## Women are generally more vigilant than men on health care matters







### But

#### Exceptions are always there ...



## There are some signs of cancer that women generally, carelessly ignore

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## No. I: Unexplained Weight Loss



Delighted to see yourself losing weight without actually trying to?

Beware!

Expect your doctor to run tests to check the thyroid and perhaps order a CT scan of different organs.

### No. 2: Bloating

Bloating is so common that many women just live with it. But it could point to ovarian cancer. Notice symptoms like

- abdominal pain
- pelvic pain,

 feeling full quickly -- even when you haven't eaten much

• and urinary problems, such as having an urgent need to go to the bathroom.

## No. 3: Breast Changes

Redness and thickening of the skin on the breast, which could indicate inflammatory breast cancer
Change in the look of a nipple,
unusual discharge

are generally ignored.

### No. 4: Between-Period Bleeding or Other Unusual Bleeding

Premenopausal women tend to ignore
between-period bleeding
Also bleeding from the GI tract

•So does bleeding after menopause,

These are symptoms of endometrial cancer colorectal cancer

#### No. 5: Skin Changes

Most of us know to look for any changes in moles -- a well-known sign of skin cancer. But we should also watch for **changes in skin pigmentation** 

Sudden scaling of the skin or bleeding are some other symptoms of skin cancer.

## No. 6: Difficulty Swallowing

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Experiencing **difficulty in swallowing**? Switched to shakes and soups, haven't you? But this is a very prominent sign of GI cancer, such as in the esophagus

## No. 7: Blood in the Wrong Place

If you notice **blood in your urine or your stool**, don't assume it's from a hemorrhoid. It could be colon cancer.

Coughing up blood should be evaluated, too

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## No. 8: Gnawing Abdominal Pain and Depression

Got a pain in the abdomen?

feeling depressed?

You need a check up right away.

Researches prove that there is a link between depression and pancreatic cancer

## No. 9: Indigestion

Indigestion during pregnancy or while gaining weight is normal. But **indigestion for no apparent reason** may be a red flag. It could be an early clue to cancer of the esophagus, stomach, or throat.

## No. 10: Mouth Changes

#### Smokers should be especially alert for any white patches inside the mouth or white spots on the tongue.

Both can point to a precancerous condition called leukoplakia that can progress to oral cancer.

## No. I I: Pain Pain that persists and is unexplained needs to be checked out. They can be an early symptom of some cancers

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## No. 12: Changes in the Lymph Nodes

If you notice a **lump or swelling in the lymph nodes under your armpit or in your neck** -- or anywhere else -- it could be worrisome

#### No. 13: Fever

If you have a <u>fever</u> that isn't explained by <u>influenza</u> or other infection, it could point to cancer. O Yes! That's True/

Fevers more often occur after cancer has spread from its original site, but it can also point to early blood cancers such as <u>leukemia</u> or <u>lymphoma</u>,

Other cancer symptoms can include jaundice, or a change in the color of your stool.



## No. 14: Fatigue

Fatigue is another vague symptom that could point to cancer





## No. 15: Persistent Cough

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a very prolonged cough -- defined as lasting more than three or four weeks – can mean cancer.

